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Inside Wallops

Student Researchers Have Experiments on NASA Balloon

Elementary through high school student researchers from across the United States had to wait for good weather conditions to launch their experiments on a high-altitude NASA scientific balloon from Fort Sumner, N.M. The weather cooperated and the launch finally occurred during the morning hours of May 3.

Students from 20 schools and one Girl Scout troop built experiments to measure different types of radiation, atmospheric pressure, static electricity and temperature during the flight and the effects on test articles such as various materials and microscopic organisms. One experiment will take digital images during the flight.



Photo by Debbie Fairbrother
Inflation of the 37 million cubic foot balloon carrying the first student experiment carriers aboard a NASA scientific balloon.

The experiment components are in brick size plastic containers aboard two larger containers about the size of large briefcases. This is the first flight of the student experiment carriers aboard a NASA scientific balloon.

NASA will retrieve the carriers within hours of the completion of the flight. The student investigators from 14 states will receive their experiments within two to three weeks to begin data analysis.

The experiments were selected as part of a new program sponsored by the NASA Education Flight Projects Office that is designed to give future engineers and scientists the opportunity to design, build, and fly experiments on NASA flight vehicles.

The primary mission for this balloon flight is to test a new heavy-lift balloon design that can carry approximately 8,000 pounds to an altitude as high as 119,000 feet above the Earth for approximately six to eight hours; current balloon systems lift up to 6,000 pounds.

For information about the student experiment balloon carrier project visit: <http://www.wff.nasa.gov/semb/>

Wallops Shorts..... In the News

Eastern Shore News – “Events at the NASA Visitor Center” and “Photography Exhibit (of Wallops Island) at Refuge Shows Barrier Island Life a Century Ago”

On the Road

Ed Parrott, Teacher-on-Loan, visited Greenwood Elementary School in Princess Anne and participated in a Career Day Event at Fruitland Middle School on April 29.

Congratulations to our Newest Retirees

Faye Davis retired from the Resource Management Office, NASA Wallops Flight Facility, effective April 16. Davis was a resource analyst and has 21 years of government service.

Dave Suiter retired from NASA Wallops Flight Facility's Electronics Engineering Branch effective April 30. Suiter began his government service in September 1980. He retired as an electronic technician and group leader.

Donnie Mason retired from NASA Wallops Flight Facility effective April 30 after almost 38 years of government service. Mason was an electronic technician in the Electronics Engineering Branch.

A World of Thanks!



Photo courtesy of Jay Pittman

Jay Pittman, (left), Chief of the Range and Mission Management Office (RMMO), recently presented Kevin Tesler, Integrated Financial Management Project (IFMP), with “A World of Thanks” award. Tesler has provided outstanding support to the project managers in the RMMO by assisting with IFMP and SAP issues over the past year. His dedication to providing high quality, responsive assistance has been key to the success of many reimbursable and NASA missions managed by the RMMO.

“A World of Thanks” awards are given by the RMMO to individuals or groups whose contributions demonstrate excellence in the support of Wallops missions and projects.

CUBE Recognizes Employees



Photo courtesy of Jay Huston
Jay Huston, (far right), CUBE Program Manager, recently recognized several employees including (left to right) Dan Douglas, Chuck Bradford, Tamara Hudson who were nominated for the Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2003.

Jay Huston, CUBE Program Manager for the Wallops Institutional Consolidated Contract (WICC) recently recognized several employees during the company’s quarterly awards ceremony.

Chuck Bradford, a crane operator and work leader for CUBE’s rigging section, was named Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2003. The award was presented for his performance during the installation of a 40-foot tower and antenna for NASA’s Observational Science Branch.

During the past 14 years, Bradford has worked for various contractors at NASA Wallops Flight Facility (WFF). Bradford said he felt “very privileged” to have won the award. “I love my job, it’s a great place to work,” he said. “We’re always doing something different”.

Tammy Hudson, Daniel Douglas and Walt Ladish also were nominated for the Employee of the Quarter award.

Hudson, an administrative assistant in the public affairs office at the Navy’s Surface Combat Systems Center (SCSC), has worked at SCSC for nearly three years. Douglas, a carpenter with CUBE has 15 years of experience working at WFF. Ladish is a mason for CUBE.

Other employees recognized during the ceremony included:

Suzette Barnhart, Carolyn Turner, George Alward, Randy Barfield, Wink Barrett, Steve Bowden, Chuck Bradford, Jack Chandler, Hal Clark, John T. Clarke, Ralph Harmon, E.T. Hickman, Danny Horner, Carlisle Jones, Mark Kamm, Paul Kleckner, Jeff Lamphier, Everett Lewis, Max Marshall, Vernon McIntosh, Dale Milliner, Ray Riggan, Sherman Shockley, David Stevens, Cliff Taylor, Troy Waidner, Wayne Webster, Ronald Wharton, Will Wise, Bill Young, Joyce Bagwell, Kentasha Harris, Corey Johnson, Eric Matthews, William McFord, Vernice Planter, Russell Williams and Curtis Oakley.

2004 Wallops Health and Wellness Fair
Thursday, May 6
10:30am - 1:30pm
Building D-10

Protect Yourself

by Mike Vandever,
Computer Sciences Corporation
Occupational Safety and Health

After your supervisor has completed a 100% hazard analysis of your work place, he/she may determine how to either eliminate any hazards or how to protect you from an existing hazard.

Several approaches may be taken to eliminate any hazard. For example, a lifting device may be purchased to prevent back injuries, muscle strains and or repetitive trauma injuries experienced by workers as a result of lifting heavy objects. Research into chemical substitution or changes to a less hazardous chemical that meets the same work requirements can be conducted.

The supervisor may decide that a simple change to work processes, sequences of work, or additional training may protect you from a hazard. Your supervisor may decide that the best protection from a known and or suspected/ potential hazard is to provide you with Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE).

Should you require PPE, it will be provided to you at no cost.

- The PPE must be appropriate for the hazard.

-The PPE must meet OSHA Standards.

The Wallops Safety Office can provide this information.

You must be trained in the proper use and maintenance of PPE issued to you. The Safety Office could not write a “one standard fits all”, so they wrote a “one requirement fits all”. The requirement is that you must be trained on the proper use and maintenance of PPE.

Some PPE may require additional conditions such as Respiratory Protection PPE. These require medical exams, special training and individual “fit” testing to meet protection standards and detailed record keeping.

Any PPE is of little value if YOU don’t use it. Protect yourself — use your PPE every time it is required!

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of Inside Wallops also may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: www.wff.nasa.gov

Editor

Betty Flowers



Wednesday, May 5
Lotsa Food, Drink Specials
Rocket Club 4:35 p.m. until

E.S. Action Employee Dies

Sympathy is extended to the family, friends and co-workers of Jimmy Nock, who died at his residence in Atlantic on April 24. Nock was employed in ground maintenance for nine years by E.S. Action, Inc. at NASA Wallops Flight Facility.

For Sale

Size 7 boys indoor roller skates - black, low boot style, good condition >\$150 when new, sell for \$65. Pink Harley motorcycle power wheels w/battery, like new \$75 obo. Call Teena Haugh (757) 336-2477 after 5 p.m.

Mother’s Day is May 9

